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THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA TO MAJOR GENERAL GEORGE GORDON MEADE WHO COMMANDED THE UNION FORCES AT GETTYSBURG

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THE MEMORIAL

TO

MAJOR GENERAL

GEORGE GORDON MEADE

IN

WASHINGTON, D. C.

PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

THE MEADE MEMORIAL COMMISSION
OF PENNSYLVANIA

OCTOBER, 1927

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c. 2

"General Meade was a remarkably fine-looking man, with a bright, intelligent countenance, piercing eye, face indicating power, straight in figure, but not stiff. His nose entitled him to a place in a gallery of military heroes. He was about six feet high."— GENERAL GEORGE H. GORDON.

Foreword

NOT since General Meade rode down Pennsylvania Avenue, at the head of the Grand Army of the Potomac, sixty-two years ago, victor in the greatest battle of the Civil War and commander of the army that saved the nation, has Washington, an imposing city of impressive ceremonies, viewed a more inspiring public function than the dedication of the Meade Memorial on the afternoon of October 19, 1927.

Beautiful surroundings, flags, decorations, soldiers, sailors, veterans, ambassadors, high officials, the Governor of Pennsylvania, the President of the United States lent color and importance to the event. But there was something above and beyond this mere physical background that gripped the hearts of thousands of men and women who gathered to pay homage to the Hero of Gettysburg.

Time, the supreme test of greatness, had been applied to the character, the service, the accomplishment of Meade, and from this test he emerged in greater glory than any burst of spontaneous enthusiasm could ever throw about a popular idol. It was so typical of the man—his industry, his endurance, his calm, his patience, his modesty, his trust, his confidence, his whole life.

The marble and granite into which inspired artists infused a beautiful tribute to the memory of Meade will stand forever in the shadow of the Capitol his valor and his genius did so much to save. But equally lasting will be the honor and the gratitude for Meade and his works in the hearts of his countrymen through unending generations.

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FRONT VIEW OF MEMORIAL

SCULPTOR'S IDEALISTIC CONCEPTION OF THE BEAUTIFUL AND INSPIRING MEMORIAL TO GENERAL MEADE

Photo by Victor Kahill

CHARLES GRAFLY, SCULPTOR

THE problem provoked by the chosen site for the Meade Memorial dictated a form which should be equal in interest and fullness of workmanship from every vantage point. Working upon this basis, the artist conceived a circle of figures which should embody the qualities which are essential to the character of a great general. These six qualities, Military Courage, Energy, Fame, Loyalty, Chivalry and Progress, while recognizing their origin in the spirit of War, look toward General Meade as the composite of their several virtues. The figure of General Meade is thus rendered the center of the artistic design, and the focal point in the imaginative conception.

He stands, his work accomplished, ready to step forth from the cloak of battle into the future era of progress. Chivalry (at his left) and Loyalty (at his right) hold back the cloak, while Loyalty also raises aloft over Meade's head a standard of wreath and garlands, in commemoration of a great achievement. Fame and Progress occupy the central positions (right and left) on either side of the group. Fame, with the urge ever upward and on, strains upward for a clearer vision of her object. Her well rounded figure, man-born, typifies the mortal striving for that which is just beyond, and carries with it a sense of unrest and of perpetual movement.

The figure of Progress, on the other hand, is dynamic in the strength of its own potentialities. It is a figure which more clearly approximates the ideal, and which will gather from its own being the wings of action. To its left, Military Courage clings with bull-dog tenacity to the dominant figure of the rear group, War, from which it takes its being. To the left of War, the figure of Energy, yielding to the urge of Fame, loosens his grasp upon the arm of War, aquiver for the greater achievement yet to come.

War, itself, occupying the central position in the rear unchanged since war first ravaged the world, holds in his grim clutch two memorial tablets. His wings, in long sweeping curves, stretch toward the standard which Loyalty holds above the head of Meade. The side groups are thus outlined against the ominous shadow of the wings of War. From the grim determination of Military Courage through the figure of Energy to the figures of Chivalry and Loyalty, the urge is onward and forward toward Progress and Fame, which, alone, of the group have the power to move with General Meade into the accomplishment of the ages and other lands. War will ever remain the same, unchanging.

But the great General will move forward, leaving behind him the static, symbolized in the figures of War and of Military Courage. The command is "Forward!"

Written by Miss Dorothy Grafly.

BRILLIANT ASSEMBLAGE ATTENDS MEMORABLE DEDICATION EXERCISES HELD IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL

PENNSYLVANIA sent its Governor, his Cabinet and his military staff to the event, accompanied by twenty-nine direct descendants of General Meade, the members of the Pennsylvania Meade Memorial Commission and several hundred veterans of the Civil War. Preceding the dedication the Pennsylvania officials and their guests were tendered a reception by President and Mrs. Coolidge in the White House, where Governor Fisher had been an overnight guest.

Escorted by a troop of United States cavalry, the entire party proceeded to the site of the Memorial in the Botanic Garden, near Third Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest. There, upon a covered stand on the south and facing the monument, the exercises were held. Over this stand were placed two flagpoles, upon which the President's colors were raised the minute he stepped onto the platform. They came from the U. S. S. "Mayflower," and made a very appropriate contribution, as they were raised by one of the "jackies" from the ship. On either side of the President's box, where the Governor and guests were seated, were placed the State flag of Pennsylvania and the Governor's flag of Pennsylvania and an American ensign which were brought down and carried and returned by orderlies from Harrisburg. On the reading desk in front of the President's stand a large copy in oil of the coat-of-arms of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania was placed in a wreath and draped with laurel garlands.

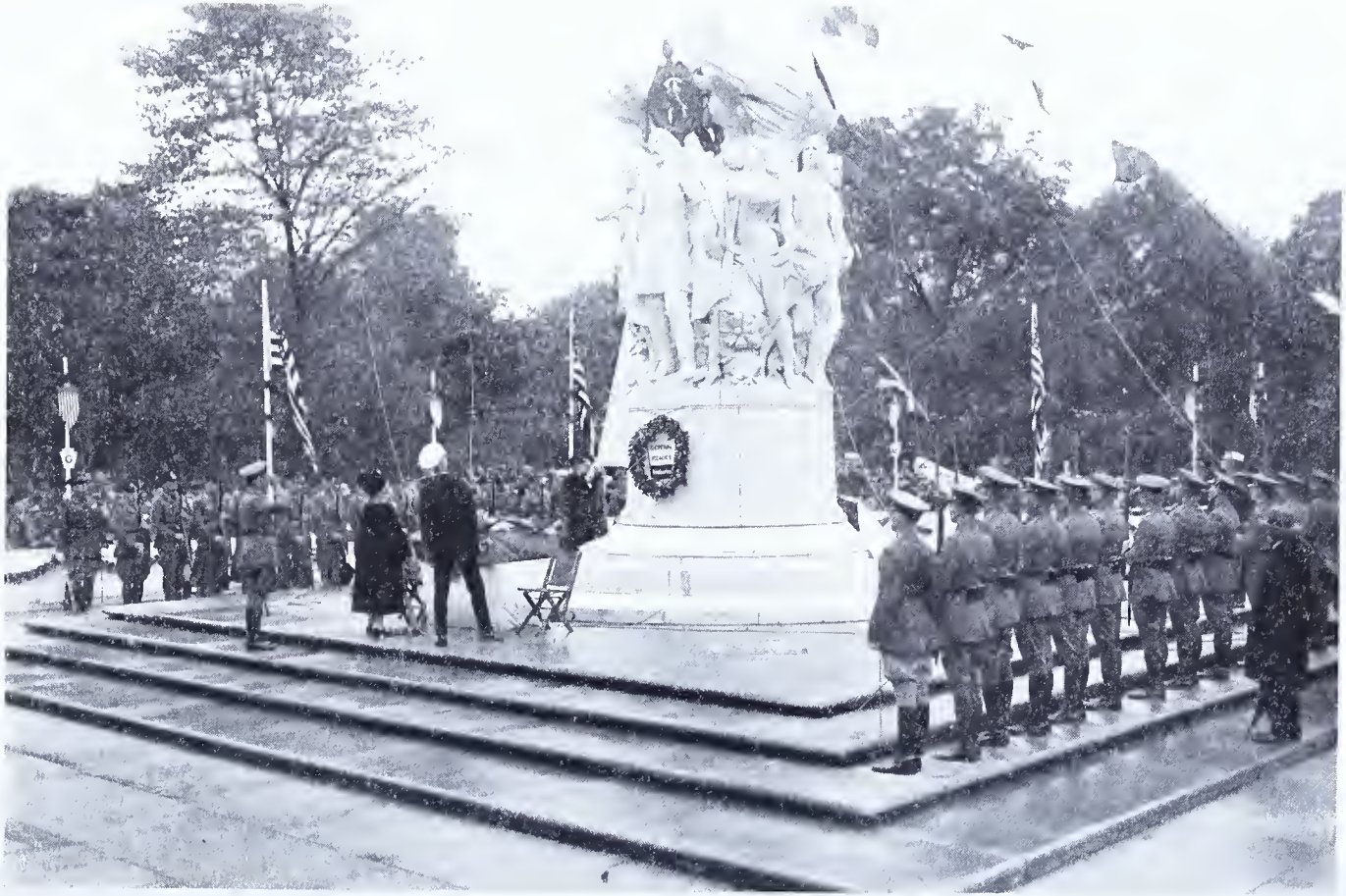
On the granite platform immediately in front of the President's stand were the color bearers of the G. A. R., who had many Civil War flags. On the seven upright front posts which supported the roof over the President's stand were placed seven hand-painted shields with a

REAR AND SIDE VIEWS OF MEADE MEMORIAL

wreath of laurel garland. Each one bore the name of a corps commander who served with and under General Meade, as follows: Major General Reynolds, First Corps, in center; Major General Hancock, Second Corps, on extreme left; Major General Sickles, Third Corps; Major General Sykes, Fifth Corps; Major General Sedgwick, Sixth Corps; Major General Howard, Eleventh Corps; Major General Slocum, Twelfth Corps.

Immediately over these shields and across the wreaths were placed small shields in the form of a keystone with the emblem of each corps painted in color upon them. Two flags were draped on each side of each of these shields and one waving out from a flagpole over each one, indicating present remembrance. On each row of supports under this stand were placed smaller flags, smaller shields and laurel rope garland. On the last row of these supports or columns were placed duplicate emblems of the corps used on the front row supports.

Out around the four sides of the platform was a hand rail carrying flagpoles, U. S. flags, shields and laurel rope garlands, and over each shield and each wreath was placed a small keystone in color with the word "Meade" in blue and "Pennsylvania" in red. On either side of the Memorial were placed large masts or flagpoles which carried a horizontal steel wire over the Memorial. The center of the steel wire was attached to two white sheets, which entirely enveloped the monument. On this steel wire were hung flags of the international code which spelled out the words "Battle of Gettysburg." One double stand directly over the hero's head, and draped in the back, spelled "Major General Meade." On each mast were flags with the year "1863" on one side and on the other "1927." On the top of each mast over all were flying American flags of the present day. The entire effect was beautiful and inspiring and gave a thrilling touch of color to the scene. The decorations were designed and executed by Frederick D. Owen, a veteran attached to the office of Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant, 3rd,



AT THE MOMENT OF THE UNVEILING

who was executive officer of the Meade Memorial National Commission.

When the President and Governor and accompanying guests had been seated, Hon. Simeon D. Fess, United States Senator from Ohio, who, as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Library and member of the National Meade Commission, presided, called the assemblage to order. The Rev. Hugh K. Fulton, chaplain in the Reserve Corps and son of Hon. Hugh R. Fulton, vice-chairman of the Pennsylvania Commission, made the invocation, following which Governor Fisher, on behalf of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, presented the Memorial to the National Government.

The Memorial was unveiled by Miss Henrietta Meade, of Philadelphia, the only surviving child of General Meade, who was a little girl of ten when the Battle of Gettysburg was fought. As Colonel Grant escorted Miss Meade to the statue she stood in front of a Guard of Honor and Color Bearers made up of members of the Society of the Army of the Potomac, men from many states who had fought at Gettysburg with her father. Twenty veterans formed the Guard of Honor and seven were color bearers, each one carrying the colors of a corps.

Miss Meade

When Miss Meade pulled the cord which was to release the great canvas sheets covering the statue, two of the veterans opened out the draperies right and left, showing the full figure of the general in uniform, extremely lifelike, as if he were just emerging from his headquarters tent. The sheets were carried around aft and lowered by sailors. When the Memorial came into view, a salute of 13 guns was fired by Battery A, 16th Field Artillery, from Fort Myer, Va., which was

ORDER OF EXERCISES

Music

Exercises called to Order - - - - HON. SIMEON D. FESS
Chairman, Senate Committee on the Library, Acting Chairman, Meade Memorial National Commission

Invocation - - - - - THE REV. HUGH K. FULTON
Chaplain in the Reserve Corps

Presentation of the Memorial - - - HON. JOHN S. FISHER
Governor of Pennsylvania, in behalf of the Meade Memorial Commission of Pennsylvania

Unveiling of Memorial - - - - MISS HENRIETTA MEADE
Daughter of General Meade

Salute of 13 Guns *Music:* Star Spangled Banner
Presentation of floral tributes

Acceptance on behalf of the Government
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Reminiscences of General Meade - - - - MR. H. H. SPAYD
Past Commander, Department of Pennsylvania, G. A. R.

Music

Presentation of the Sculptor
MR. CHARLES GRAFLY

Presentation of the Architects
MR. EDWARD P. SIMON and MR. GRANT M. SIMON
BY DR. WARREN P. LAIRD
Dean of The School of Fine Arts, University of Pennsylvania

Dedicatory Prayer - - - - - THE REV. J. H. PERSHING
Chaplain, Department of Pennsylvania, G. A. R.

Taps

Music

stationed nearby. Then occurred one of the most striking incidents of the dedication. The smoke from the guns flew directly in front of the statue, curling around the figure of General Meade as though it were a wraith of War enfolding his body in fond embrace.

When the Memorial was fully exposed to view two flags were hoisted aloft, one east, one west. One flag was specially made for this occasion with only 35 stars, representing the flag of the period of 1863. The other flag, the one nearest the Capitol, had the full 48 stars of the present day. After the sailors from the "Mayflower," the President's yacht, had cleared away all ropes and tackle, 48 pigeons, representing peace, were released at the base of the statue, which they circled three times and then set out for home.

This made a fitting background for the scholarly address of President Coolidge, who paid the great Pennsylvanian a glowing tribute in accepting the Memorial for the people of the nation.

A touch of sadness was thrown over the dedication when Mr. H. H. Spayd, Past Commander, Department of Pennsylvania, G. A. R., was stricken while delivering an address, immediately following the President, dealing with reminiscences of General Meade. Mr. Spayd, who was in his 83rd year, was a color bearer at the Battle of Gettysburg and was fond of relating his personal observations of his great commander. He began in a vigorous fashion, and his fine, full voice could be distinctly heard at the farthest edge of the crowd. Then it began to get weaker and weaker, and finally he could not speak at all. Army doctors present gave him immediate attention and removed him to an army hospital, where he passed away the following day.

After the presentation of the sculptor and architects by Dr. Warren P. Laird, the exercises were brought to a close with a most beautiful and impressive prayer by the Rev. Dr. J. H. Pershing, Chaplain, Department of Pennsylvania, G. A. R.

253423

GENERAL MEADE DURING CIVIL WAR PERIOD

From the painting by Thomas Hicks

LIFE OF GENERAL MEADE, WHOSE WORKS OF PEACE WERE AS GREAT AS HIS MIGHT AND GENIUS IN WAR

George Gordon Meade was born in Cadiz, Spain, December 31, 1815. His great-grandfather, Robert Meade, came to this country from Ireland about 1732 and established himself at Philadelphia, Province of Pennsylvania, as a shipping and commission merchant. In this he was succeeded by his sons, who carried on the business under the firm name of Garrett and George Meade.

Born in Philadelphia in 1741, George Meade lived there all his life and was closely identified with the progress of the city during that period and in financing the new government after the Declaration of Independence. Of his ten children, Richard Worsam Meade, father of General Meade, was born in 1778. After a thorough education, Richard entered his father's counting house, where he quickly developed rare business acumen. At the age of 17 he began his voyages about the world on his father's ships, and when only 22 had succeeded by industry and ability in achieving an independence.

In 1801 Richard Meade married Margaret Coates Butler, a daughter of Anthony Butler, of Perth Amboy, New Jersey, and a granddaughter of Colonel William Coates, a wealthy and prominent citizen of Philadelphia. Shortly after his marriage business interests took him to Spain, where he found exceptional commercial opportunities and determined to develop them.

His wife and two children in 1804 joined him in Cadiz, where the family resided for 17 years. During the invasion of Spain by the French in the Peninsular War he supplied the Spanish Government with large amounts of money and supplies, Spain becoming deeply indebted to

him for funds and merchandise. During his residence abroad, his family was increased by six children, the youngest of whom was George Gordon Meade.

Political and other complications in Spain delayed the liquidation of that country's debt to Mr. Meade, but in 1819, by the treaty of Florida, the claims of American citizens against Spain were assumed by the United States in exchange for the cession of Florida to this country.

In 1820 the family came back to Philadelphia. A few years later they removed to Washington, where, Mr. Meade thought, he could better look after his claim under the Florida treaty. The boy George was placed in a military boarding school at Mt. Airy, Philadelphia.

On June 25th, 1828, Richard Meade died in Washington, broken in health and spirit by his failure to collect his claim, which still remains unpaid. The family continued to reside in Washington, where George attended the school conducted by Salmon P. Chase, the distinguished Secretary of the Treasury in Mr. Lincoln's Cabinet. In the summer of 1831 he was appointed a cadet at West Point by President Andrew Jackson.

He was then 15 years and eight months of age, quite small in stature, slender and delicate in appearance. During his four years at West Point he ranked high in his academic studies, but the military routine was distasteful to him. He was graduated number nineteen in his class July 1st, 1835, and assigned as brevet second lieutenant to the Third Regiment of Artillery.

The following year he served in the Florida war, where his health was undermined by fever. In October, 1836, he resigned from the army and entered the employ of the Alabama, Florida and Georgia Railroad, then building. Later he was chosen by the War Department to make several river and harbor surveys, in this rendering valuable service. He also served on the boundary surveys of Texas and the British Provinces.

December 31, 1840, his twenty-fifth birthday, he married Miss Margaretta Sergeant, daughter of Hon. John Sergeant, a distinguished Philadelphia lawyer and member of Congress. May 19, 1842, he re-entered the army when President Tyler appointed him a second lieutenant in the Corps of Topographical Engineers. He served on the northeastern boundary survey and in the construction of lighthouses and in surveys on Delaware Bay until the Mexican War called him to Texas on August 12, 1845.

Here he performed brilliant service on the staff of General Taylor and later on the staff of General Scott as an engineer officer, being frequently mentioned for his gallantry and efficiency. At the close of the Mexican War he resumed the building of lighthouses and making coast surveys. During this period he constructed the Delaware Breakwater, regarded at the time a most wonderful scientific achievement.

He was promoted to first lieutenant in August, 1851, and to captain in May, 1856, Topographical Engineers. August 31, 1861, he was appointed brigadier general of volunteers and assigned to the division commanded by Major General George A. McCall, known as the Pennsylvania Reserves. He was given command of the Second Brigade of this famous unit, which was made part of the Army of the Potomac under Major General George B. McClellan. The 13th Pennsylvania, known as the "Bucktails," one of the most famous regiments of the Union Army, was a part of Meade's Brigade.

During the Peninsular campaign his fame as a commander was established. He was badly wounded at Glendale. When McClellan went to Maryland he commanded a division in Hooker's Corps. He held the center at Antietam and led a desperate charge against the enemy at the beginning of the action. In this engagement he had two horses shot under him and was himself wounded.

After the battle of Chancellorsville, when General Hooker was relieved of the chief command of the Army

of the Potomac, Meade, to his great surprise, was named to succeed him. It was his wish that Reynolds, his senior officer and close friend, be given the high command. In the early morning of June 28, 1863, he was awakened in his tent to receive the order of President Lincoln advancing him to that important position.

It is doubtful if, in all history, any general was ever precipitated into such responsibility with absolutely no help from his predecessor. The North was in a panic. Lee's victorious army had been sweeping everything before it. He was reported ready to strike a decisive blow. Washington, the national capital, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Harrisburg were in grave danger. To stem the onrush of this mighty tide a quiet, studious, unassuming man was shaken out of his slumber in the middle of the night and told to stop it.

He had no plan, no detailed information as to the disposition of troops, no definite idea of what was to be done, no opportunity to study the situation. But he met it promptly and bravely. In three days he was in the most momentous conflict of the war, the high-water mark of the Rebellion, and by his indefatigable energy, his indomitable will, his marvelous skill, his uncanny, intuitive judgment of topographical values, with a discouraged army, he turned the tide in one of the hardest fought battles of history.

Without sleep for a week, with tireless force his marvelous mind and splendid body were thrown into the supreme effort of his life. Gathering his scattered troops from the four points of the compass, he began a movement at once daring and delicate. His problem was to block Lee against moving on to Harrisburg and Philadelphia without leaving the way open for him to sweep around the Union flank and rear and on to Baltimore and Washington.

Meade gathered in the troops nearest at hand. Lee's army was being pulled together. Early on the morning of July 1st, three days after Meade had been appointed to

command, portions of the opposing forces came together at Gettysburg. The day was spent in maneuvering for position, but there was plenty of spirited fighting. General Reynolds was killed early in the first day's fight. Meade seemed to sense that a general battle was impending and all his orders were directed toward concentrating every available force at Gettysburg. The result of the first day's fighting was decidedly in favor of the Confederates, for the reason that Lee knew of the advance of the Union army before its leaders were aware of the Confederate position and in this way was able to start his movements for concentration before Meade learned of his close proximity.

Just before midnight following the first day's battle, General Meade arrived on Cemetery Hill and went into conference with his generals. Following this he made a careful inspection in the dark of Cemetery Hill and the disposition of the troops there. Long before dawn he was on his horse and covered the Union lines around Cemetery Hill, along Cemetery Ridge and beyond to where the land dips before it rises abruptly at the base of Little Round Top. He then rode along the right wing, around Culp's Hill to the crossing of Rock Creek by the Baltimore Pike.

In the cold, grey dawn of that momentous morning the dreary, humdrum years of surveying, map making and the scientific study of topography came to fruition and won the most important battle of the Civil War. Meade's mind was a photographic plate of the Battlefield of Gettysburg. During the next two days he was able to visualize every point of vantage given by the lay of the land. How well this ability served the Union is history.

By the second day Meade's army was in a strong defensive position. At mid-afternoon he wired Washington that he would await the enemy's attack. If, however, the enemy did not assume the offensive, he would if conditions were favorable, keeping in mind that he should not allow the Confederates to get between him

and Washington. It was a three-fold problem that faced Meade at Gettysburg.

The third day's fight, under the blaze of a hot July sun, was ushered in by one of the most terrific cannonades in history. The Confederates gathered all their strength to hurl it in one final desperate effort upon Meade's tired, waiting army. The flower of Lee's troops swept grandly up, only to be crushed and torn and broken by the enfilading fires "from half a dozen crests." Environed by a blazing semi-circle of deadly fire, they could not escape. Thousands of the enemy were captured. It was not a rout. It was a bitter, crushing defeat. It was the beginning of the end of the Rebellion.

On the morning of the Fourth of July Meade issued a congratulatory address to his army thoroughly characteristic of the man. After thanking his men for the courage and gallantry displayed by them he concluded: "It is right and proper that we should on all suitable occasions return our grateful thanks to the Almighty Disposer of events that in the goodness of His Providence He has thought fit to give victory to the cause of the just."

President Lincoln on the same day made an announcement to the country requesting that the day should be remembered with thanksgiving and saying that the army at Gettysburg had covered itself with "highest honor." In January, 1866, General Meade received the thanks of Congress "for the skill and heroic valor with which, at Gettysburg, he repulsed, defeated and drove back, broken and dispirited, the veteran Army of the Rebellion."

After Gettysburg Meade advanced with the Army of the Potomac to the Rappahannock, Bristoe, Brandy Station, New Baltimore, Robertson's River, Kelly's Ford and Rappahannock Bridge. In this campaign he drove Lee with great tactical skill back from the Rappahannock to the south side of the Rapidan.

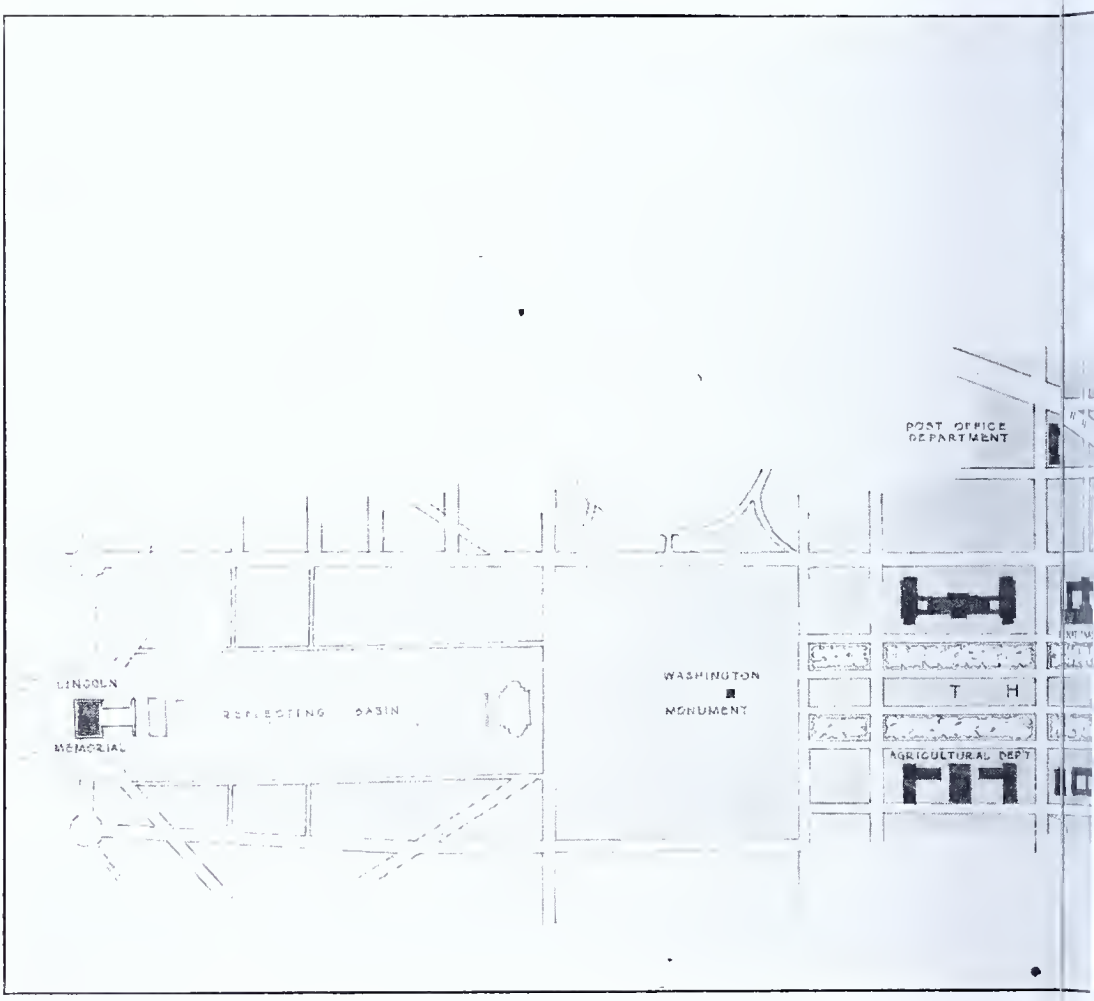
The last campaign of the Army of the Potomac began on March 29, 1865, and ended on April 9. The engage-

ments at Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Petersburg and Five Forks led up to the surrender of Lee at Appomattox.

On June 28, 1865, General Meade separated from the Army of the Potomac because it ceased to exist, under the order of the President, just two years to the day after he was appointed its commander. July 1, 1865, he was assigned to command the Military Division of the Atlantic, with headquarters at Philadelphia. January 6, 1868, he took command of the Third Military District, comprising the states of Georgia, Alabama and Florida, with headquarters at Atlanta. Later he returned to the command of the Atlantic Division at Philadelphia,where he died November 6, 1872, and was buried in Laurel Hill Cemetery.

The military as well as the private character of General Meade was marked by caution, reliability, thoroughness, goodness and rare modesty. No breath of distraction or envy obscured his fair fame. Memories of the field of Gettysburg enfold his noble dust in a cloud of perpetual incense and transmit to posterity his best eulogy.

LOCATION OF MEADE MEMORIA A
BUILDINGS AND CH

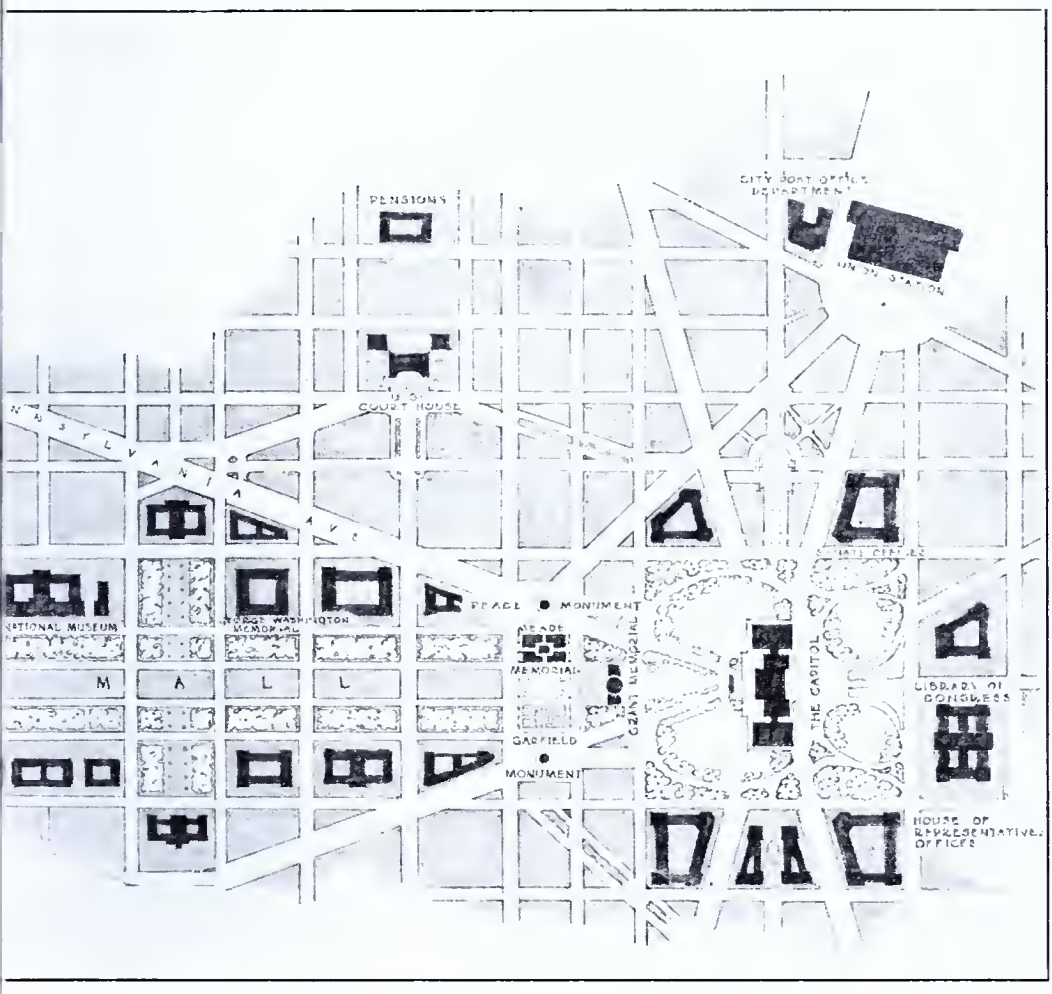


The present surroundings of the Meade Memorial by no means adeq the place of General Meade among Civil War leaders. An inspection o public grounds shows that Pennsylvania's tribute to General Meade occu

The Botanic Garden, which now surrounds the Memorial, will be re ument to the Washington Monument and thence on to the Lincoln Me

The Meade Memorial stands directly in front of the Capitol, just nor with the Peace Monument directly behind it. Thus it is a distinguishe beautiful and so imposing as to challenge comparison with anything ev

AND ITS RELATION TO PUBLIC
THER MEMORIALS



dicate the importance given by the United States Government to
on of the above plan detailing the proposed development of the
ccupies one of the three most conspicuous locations in Washington.
e removed and the open Mall will extend from the Grant Mon-
Memorial.
north of the Grant Monument and facing the Garfield Monument,
shed unit in a noble group situated at the focal of an ensemble so
g ever produced by the genius of man.

PRESENTATION ADDRESS OF HONORABLE JOHN S. FISHER

GOVERNOR OF PENNSYLVANIA

Trinity Court Studio
Ralph W. Johnston

Mr. President, Senator Fess, Soldiers, and Fellow Citizens:

WE have assembled today to engage in the final act of a design long cherished by the soldiers and citizens of Pennsylvania to set up in the capital of the nation a fitting memorial to General George Gordon Meade. He is the most eminent of our many famous generals, and his life and career are closely bound up with his home State. He was a native son whose antecedents rooted deep into Colonial times. His rise to renown as a soldier occurred while in command of the celebrated division of the Army of the Potomac known to history as the Pennsylvania Reserves. The great majority of the soldiers enlisted from the Keystone State

served under him while he was chief of the Army of the Potomac. It was on Pennsylvania soil at Gettysburg that he earned enduring fame.

Although born in Cadiz, Spain, he did not forfeit his right to nativity, for his parents, whose home city was Philadelphia, were only temporarily resident there when he first saw the light on the last day of the year 1815. The father, Richard Worsam Meade, in addition to serving the United States as Naval Agent, was engaged on a large scale in private business, in the course of which he became involved with the Spanish Government, then engaged in the Peninsular War. His failure to recover large sums due him from Spain, or from his own country, by whom these obligations were assumed under the Florida Treaty, proved ruinous to both fortune and health, and he died, embarrassed in estate, at the early age of fifty. The devoted mother was thus left with a large family and insufficient means to support them in the station to which they had long been accustomed.

These unhappy conditions take on marked significance when we recall that to his straitened circumstances the nation owes the career of one of her most illustrious soldiers. After sending her young son, George Gordon Meade, to private schools, among which was one conducted by Salmon P. Chase, later eminent statesman and Chief Justice, she sought entrance for him to the United States Military Academy at West Point. He was admitted July 1, 1831, and finished his course in the class of 1835. His school record was creditable but not brilliant, and, as not infrequently happens, gave little promise of the eminence which he afterwards attained. In fact, he looked forward to civil employment as soon as he could honorably retire from the army. But the star of his destiny overruled his own inclination, and, with the exception of a brief period of retirement, he wore his country's uniform until the end of his days.

We may here touch with propriety upon his domestic life, for no man was ever happier in his home surround-

ings or more influenced by the companionship of a good wife. In 1840 Lieutenant Meade was married to Margaretta Sergeant, daughter of John Sergeant, noted Philadelphia lawyer and statesman. The young couple established themselves in Philadelphia and there lived and reared their children in a home to which the soldier husband could always repair with assurance of the tenderest sympathy and the fullest understanding of all his difficult problems. When absent he wrote to his beloved wife constantly, explaining in minutest detail whatever matter he had in hand, laying bare to her the innermost promptings of his mind and heart. These letters have been given to the public by his son and grandson, and are models of clear thinking and expression. One cannot escape the conclusion that in their writing the mind of General Meade received no small part of the discipline and training which fitted him for high command.

The period between his graduation and the outbreak of the Civil War was one of diligent, painstaking service and preparation for the grave responsibilities of the leadership of a mighty army engaged in desperate warfare. He was early assigned to the engineering service, where he was engaged at various times in the erection of lighthouses along the Atlantic Coast as far South as the extremity of Florida. Much of his time was given to topographical work. Under the War Department he surveyed the Sabine River as a preliminary step to the establishment of the line between the United States and the new Republic of Texas. He spent two years on the survey of the mouth of the Mississippi River, where his scientific discoveries were of vast and enduring value to the navigation of that great artery of commerce. Again he was called to assist the commissions which finally fixed the Texas boundary and established the Northeastern line along the Canadian border. After the Mexican War he rendered an immeasurably useful service to his own Commonwealth in the construction of the

breakwater at the mouth of Delaware Bay. He was next assigned to the geodetic survey of the Great Lakes. For three years preceding the Civil War he was in complete charge of that most important employment. In the meantime he had been advanced in rank to a Captaincy in the Topographic Engineers.

Preparation for field service in actual war came to him in Mexico. At the outbreak of hostilities he was promptly ordered to the front and assigned to the staff of General Zachary Taylor as Topographical Engineer. He participated in the battles of Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma and Monterey, and was then transferred to the staff of General Winfield Scott in time to engage in the siege and witness the surrender of Vera Cruz. After two years of arduous and active service he was ordered home with the highest commendations of his superior officers. While in Mexico he served with many officers who reached great distinction on both sides in the conflict between the North and the South.

I have been prompted to give this thumb-nail sketch of General Meade's earlier life because the value of his peace-time services is not generally recognized. It was his experience, however, obtained in these several employments, which gave him such extraordinary skill in judging the topography of a country for military operations.

When President Lincoln issued his call for 75,000 volunteers at the outbreak of the Civil War, Pennsylvania was caught up in a whirl of patriotic enthusiasm. Many thousands beyond the quota called for offered themselves for enlistment. The War Department declined to muster in the excess volunteers, but Governor Curtin, more far-sighted, proceeded to form them into a military unit which took the name of the Pennsylvania Reserves. These troops were the flower of the young manhood of the State. They were officered by men who had served in the War with Mexico. They were placed under command of the veteran General George A. Mc-

Call, and the three brigades into which they were organized were assigned to Generals Reynolds, Meade and Ord. When the disaster of the first battle of Bull Run occurred these choice volunteer troops were ready at hand, drilled, equipped and officered. They were promptly mustered in and called to the defense of Washington.

From that time their record is the history of the Army of the Potomac. They participated in every important engagement up until the expiration of their three-year term of enlistment. McCall was obliged to retire because of failing health and was succeeded by Reynolds. Reynolds was later promoted to the command of a corps and was followed by Meade, who continued in command until Hooker reorganized the army just before the battle of Chancellorsville and assigned him to the command of the Fifth Corps. Meade stayed constantly with his troops, except for a short time while recovering from wounds. Time after time he exposed himself with them in the thick of battle. To appreciate his heroic mould one must have listened to the story from the lips of the veterans who fought around him. At Charles City Cross Roads the Reserves met the full onslaught of the Confederate Army and held it at bay until McClellan was able to execute his withdrawal. Old Baldy, as the General's horse was affectionately called by his men, shared the wounds of his master in this desperate carnage. Is it any wonder that this whole division were so passionately devoted to a leader who not only shared their dangers but led them in person where the fight was fiercest?

After Chancellorsville, the North was wrapped in deepest gloom. South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville had been fought in quick succession with disaster to the Union arms. The Confederate forces, swelled to their maximum strength and intoxicated with the wine of victory, were under the leadership of a general whose genius was recognized by

his bitterest foes. The organization and discipline were close to perfection, and general and men alike were eager for the boldest enterprise. On the Union side commanders had been changed three times in the course of the recent battles. So great was the distrust of Hooker by his subordinates that General Couch, one of his finest corps commanders, tendered his resignation. When Lee, with his victorious host, turned toward the invasion of Pennsylvania, the Union Army was suffering from the depression of defeat and the confusion of uncertainty. At this juncture Washington turned to General Meade for rescue from the desperate situation.

Nothing in army life was more beautiful than the friendship between General Meade and General Reynolds. Reynolds was the senior and Meade insisted upon the command being turned over to him, but General Reynolds, well knowing the soldierly qualities and ability of General Meade, joined in the recommendation that he be made the Union Commander. A great battle was imminent, or the North was to be overrun. The situation came to a climax in just five days after Meade assumed command, by the accidental meeting of the advance troops of both sides on the now historic field of Gettysburg.

This is not the place for a recital of that titanic struggle, but we may weigh the factors and chances of battle for an estimate of the abilities of the commanders. On the one side was the superb General Lee with an army at maximum strength under perfect control. On the other was General Meade with forces scattered under command of subordinates whom he had not even had the opportunity to call together in council. The armies were about equally matched in man power. Neither general had the advantage of selecting his ground in advance. Both were compelled to rely upon immediate decision in the disposition of troops and the formation of battle lines. Lee was first to gather his forces in hand, but Meade was able to collect his army corps just in time for

each crucial moment. The Union side had the advantage of being on the defensive. Balancing all the elements that enter into battle, there was not another one waged in the four years of conflict on more nearly equal terms. It was three days of carnage fought on both sides to the point of physical exhaustion.

If ever a general was tested in every attribute that goes to make a great field marshal it was General Meade in that sanguinary conflict into which he had been so suddenly and unexpectedly plunged. He had the courage to establish his headquarters at the focal point of danger. He was everywhere along the line. He was vigilant by night as by day. In person he repaired the nearly fatal blunder of General Sickles in time to save the day. He disposed his troops under his own eye and at times led single regiments into position. General Lee, with all his sagacity and skill, did not make a single move in the course of the three days' fighting that was not anticipated and checkmated by General Meade. By every student of war this battle has been rated as the decisive point in the struggle of the sixties. All the successes of General Lee's magnificent army led up to the Bloody Angle and from that point downward to Appomattox. Had General Meade never fought another battle, Gettysburg alone would suffice to give his name immortality.

I shall not follow him further in the two remaining years of his command of the Army of the Potomac. He served directly under his great chieftain, General Grant, from whom he earned the highest encomiums. Anyone may now place his estimate upon the relative merits of the Union commanders. However, a competent judge has rated them in the order of Grant, Meade, Sherman and Thomas. Whatever may be our private view, all admit that the name of Meade will go down to posterity as a great soldier and as the triumphant commander in one of the decisive conflicts of all time.

In private life he was courtly as in war he was chivalrous. He never sought preferment or permitted himself

indulgence in military dramatics. Whatever he did was dictated by a sound, well-balanced mind. He was courageous to the last degree. His wounds were received in the charging battle line. His soldiers described him as the flaming spirit of war when leading the assault. He was deeply religious. His appeals to his soldiers and his public utterances breathe the fervency of a sincere Christian. His fame is enduring. He needs no monument or uttered speech or written volume to perpetuate his services. In erecting this beautiful memorial, Pennsylvania rather does herself honor, and simply vindicates the judgment of history which has been testing him out for two-thirds of a century.

This group is the gift of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, made under authority of the Act of June 14, 1911, and its several supplements. It therefore becomes my rare privilege and duty on behalf of the Meade Memorial Commission, which is the lawful agency of the Commonwealth with full powers in the premises, to transfer to you, Mr. President, as the representative of the Government of the United States, this memorial erected to Pennsylvania's great soldier, General George Gordon Meade.

ADDRESS OF ACCEPTANCE BY HONORABLE CALVIN COOLIDGE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Photo by Harris & Ewing

Ladies and Gentlemen:

AMERICA has ever been the most generous to those who have rendered service in time of war. We have not only been lavish in the public honors, which have been conferred upon our veterans, but we have also bestowed upon them pensions and gratuities reaching down to every man in the ranks, with which no other country can make any comparison. Such beneficences accorded to Civil War veterans will probably exceed twice the cost of that great war, although it lasted for a space of four years.

It has been in this field, rather than in the direction of memorials and monuments which might correspond to

the resources of our country and the importance of the men and events commemorated, that our action has been most conspicuous. It took the better part of a century to raise a fitting monument to Washington, nearly 60 years to express our appreciation of Lincoln, and about the same length of time to place a statue to Grant in the Capital City of the Nation.

This condition arose from no lack of appreciation of distinguished services, but rather from a lack of appreciation of what might be done in the way of public adornment through the agencies of architecture and sculpture. It can not be denied that some of the efforts which the Government has made, both in buildings and in monuments, have served to confirm the impression that they do not always increase the beauty of their surroundings.

It is a satisfaction to realize that a change has come over public opinion. We have made a marked increase in our ability for artistic expression. It is not to be wondered at, therefore, that while some memorial has been raised to a number of his comrades, it was not until the present time that a statue has been erected in this city in honor of Maj. Gen. George Gordon Meade. But there are great compensations for the delay in the beauty and the appropriateness of the memorial and in the demonstration of the enduring quality of his fame.

As is indicated by the inscription before it, this monument has been erected by the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to the memory of one of her distinguished sons. But in this case there is a double reason for this honor, because in one of the great battles of history he met and turned back in defeat almost at the border a mighty army bent on the invasion of that State. Everyone with even the most elementary knowledge of American history knows that Meade was victorious at Gettysburg. That in and of itself would be sufficient warrant to unending acclaim by his fellow countrymen. But informed students of the war know that he played a vital part throughout its whole course.

He was a modest man, accustomed to giving credit to others rather than himself. Lacking the partisan support of those high in office and of the public press, he had little opportunity to be glorified during his lifetime. But finally justice comes to be done; time sets its clearer, truer estimate. The records more and more reveal General Meade as a gallant soldier and a Christian gentleman. He was the great commander of the Army of the Potomac. It was that great force which for nearly four years held in check the ablest officers in the main military effort of the Confederacy. That Army had five commanders. Four of them were displaced within the first two years of its existence. During the last half of its history, from June 28, 1863, until it was disbanded after Appomattox, it was commanded by Meade alone. He was displaced not by defeat but by victory.

The military record of General Meade may be said to begin in 1831, when he entered the Military Academy at West Point from Pennsylvania. In 1835 he retired to private life, mainly on account of impaired health. But he returned to the Army in 1842, where he remained until his death in Philadelphia, November 6, 1872. While he was out of the Army he was engaged in a survey of the mouth of the Mississippi River. There he made some original experiments, which in later years led Major General Humphreys to investigations, by which he discovered the causes which formed bars and shoals at the mouth of the river. He re-entered the Army as a second lieutenant in the Corps of Topographical Engineers. After serving on the staffs of General Taylor and General Scott during the Mexican War we find him in 1857 as the chief engineer of the geodetic survey of the Great Lakes, where his scientific work was highly commended by the Smithsonian Institution.

At the outbreak of the war he was about to accept command of a Michigan volunteer regiment, when Governor Curtin gave him a commission as brigadier general of volunteers in the Pennsylvania Reserve Corps

late in the summer of 1861. Up to this time he had never commanded even a company. His corps became part of the Army of the Potomac under McClellan. The great task at that time was to make an army out of a great mass of men totally inexperienced in military action. Later he served under both Burnside and Hooker, participating in the peninsula campaign, the second Bull Run, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, and other battles of less importance. At New Market Cross Roads, June 30, 1862, he was wounded, but was back in command in six weeks. When Hooker was disabled at Antietam, McClellan gave command of his corps temporarily to Meade, although other officers outranked him. A little later he was made major general of volunteers and placed in command of the Fifth Army Corps.

Early in June, 1863, Lee began to march north. He crossed the Potomac. His entire plans were never revealed, but if he could break through the Army of the Potomac, Washington, Baltimore, and even Philadelphia might have been captured, and there was little to prevent his marching on to New York. Hooker, commanding the Federal forces, began falling back, apparently to protect Washington. He soon asked to be relieved, and at Frederick early on the morning of June 28 Meade was astounded at receiving orders placing him in command.

A situation of extreme difficulty confronted him. Hooker left for his post at Baltimore, giving no information as to his plans or the disposition of his forces. But the new commander accepted his unsought responsibility and proceeded to discharge it. By 7 o'clock on the same morning he had dispatched his acceptance to Washington, indicated that he would move toward the Susquehanna, and at the first opportunity give battle. He immediately worked out a plan concentrating his troops on a favorable field, where it would be necessary for Lee to attack him. He accomplished his purpose.

The result was the terrible carnage of the Battle of Gettysburg. Beginning on July 1, and extending over

three days, it ended when Pickett led his charge against the Union forces in vain. It is thought that in the Union Army nearly 100,000 were engaged, which was outnumbered by the Confederate Army by about 10,000. The losses of Lee in killed, wounded, and missing were estimated at 31,600; those of Meade at 23,100. The tide of war had reached its flood, and from that day began to recede. Early on the morning of July 5 the great general of the Confederacy, Robert E. Lee, turned southward toward his native Virginia. Thereafter he must have known that he was supporting a lost cause, but the Army that loved him rallied around him and his great military skill made him a dangerous foe for nearly two more years.

When it is remembered that before this terrific engagement Meade had been in command of the Army but three days, his victory becomes the more wonderful. Of course, he became an object of investigation by the Congress, but was able to vindicate himself. While President Lincoln was profoundly grateful for the decisive victory, he was no doubt filled with regret that Meade had not been able to pursue and destroy the retreating forces of Lee. Learning of this, the general requested to be relieved from command of the Army, but his request was disregarded for reasons probably best stated in a letter from the President to Gen. O. O. Howard, of July 21, when he said: "I was deeply mortified by the escape of Lee across the Potomac, because the substantial destruction of his army would have ended the war. A few days having passed, I am profoundly grateful for what was done, without criticism for what was not done."

The general himself felt that though he was victorious, his army had been disorganized, while the army of Lee, although repulsed, was by no means shattered. Before long they were facing each other across the Rappahannock. The withdrawal of a considerable number of his forces, due to the draft riots in New York and for other service, delayed his plan to lead an attack across the stream.

In November, after Lee had withdrawn behind the Rapidan, Meade planned to engage him at Mine Run. His plan became disarranged by the failure of one of the generals, so that the advance was abandoned. Although there was great public clamor for him to go forward, he refused to permit what he believed would be a wanton slaughter of brave men and might put in jeopardy the Union cause. He had sufficient character to rely on his own judgment and sufficient conscience to do what he thought was right.

At the opening of the next campaign in March, 1864, General Grant was made lieutenant general and placed in supreme command of all the forces, making his headquarters with the Army of the Potomac. He refused the offer of Meade to retire, who held his command to the end, taking a prominent part in the battles of the next 12 months, which included the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, and Petersburg. On the 1st of February, 1865, he was made a major general in the Regular Army. It was during this month that he was notified that his son lay dying. So great, however, was his devotion to duty, that he refused to leave the front and did not reach home until two days after the boy was gone. Three days later he was directed to return to his command.

He was so worn out from his long service that in the closing days before Appomattox he was compelled to travel in an ambulance. But disease could not shake the vigor of his mind. He still retained his command. The first notes between Lee and Grant, paving the way for capitulation, passed through Meade's lines. But, having ridden over to the position commanded by Sheridan, Grant received the final note of surrender through him. The commander of the Army of the Potomac, therefore, was not present when late in the afternoon of April 9, 1865, General Lee, realizing the hopelessness of further resistance, acknowledged the defeat of the Confederate cause. Meade rode at the head of his men in the grand review at Washington, and on June 28, the second anni-

versary after he had been placed in command, he issued a farewell address to his men, in the course of which he said, "Let us return thanks to Almighty God for His blessings in granting us victory and peace, and let us sincerely pray for strength and light to discharge our duties as citizens as we have endeavored to discharge them as soldiers."

After the war General Meade seems to have been engaged in the routine work of the Army of that day. From July, 1865, he commanded the Division of the Atlantic, with headquarters at Philadelphia, except for some service in the South. In 1868, as head of the Third Military Division, he acted as civil governor of Georgia, Florida, and Alabama, where he displayed a most sympathetic and tolerant spirit in his efficient promotion of reconstruction. The next year he was back in Philadelphia, where he took an active interest in the welfare of the city, serving as vice president of the Fairmount Park Commission and in many benevolent enterprises. This eminent soldier and faithful citizen passed away at the early age of 57. When President Grant was informed of his death he is said to have exclaimed, "What a calamity it would have been had it occurred during the war." When it is remembered that not Meade but Sherman and Sheridan were the favorites with Grant, it can all the better be realized what high praise and appreciation these words conveyed. It is fitting that his statue should stand here, crowned with the emblems of victory, in front of the mounted figure flanked by wheeling squadrons, which has been raised to the memory of his commanding general.

The more we study the history of the war in which he fought, the more General Meade stands out as a responsible and reliable commander. Others may have had more dash, though none surpassed him in courage. He did not engage himself in leading hopeless charges. He was, rather, a general who kept himself sufficiently informed as to the movements of his enemy and made such

preparation and wise disposition of his own troops that hopeless charges were not necessary.

It can not be said that he always won, but he experienced very little of defeat. His personality was well rounded out. If it appeared to possess no lofty peaks, it was not marred by any deep depressions. If he was sometimes quick of temper, he was eminently sound of judgment. He was a solid and substantial man, one who inspired confidence, one who could be trusted. The victor of Appomattox assigned to him the second place among his generals. History has revealed that the estimate was none too high. General Lee is reported to have ranked him even higher, saying, "Meade, in my judgment, had the greatest ability. I feared him more than any man I ever met upon the field of battle."

Throughout his life General Meade was a man of deep religious conviction. When he entered the service he said, "I go into the field * * * trusting to God to dispose of my life and actions in accordance with my daily prayer that His will, not mine, shall be done." Throughout his entire military career he constantly acted in harmony with that sentiment. Time and again, in his letters and statements, he acknowledged his dependence upon Divine Providence. Like most great soldiers he was devoted to peace, not war. He even hesitated to regard those who supported the Southern cause in the light of enemies, even reproving his own men for glorying in their defeat, which he would reserve for the case of a foreign foe.

On behalf of the Government of the Nation which he helped to save, I accept this memorial erected by the Commonwealth which was his own home and the home of his ancestors. The conflict in which he took such an important part has long since passed away. The peace which he loved has come. The reconciliation which he sought is complete. The loyalty to the flag which he followed is universal. Through all of this shines his own immortal fame.

MEADE MEMORIAL COMMISSION AND ITS WORK FROM JUNE, 1911, TO DEDICATION IN OCTOBER, 1927

THE construction of the Meade Memorial began officially on June 14, 1911, when the Pennsylvania Legislature enacted a bill providing for a Commission composed of the Governor, Attorney General, Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic Department of Pennsylvania, a member of the Senate, a member of the House of Representatives and the general chairman of the committee on Meade Statue of the Philadelphia Brigade Association, this Commission to procure a suitable site in Washington, D. C., and to erect a suitable statue.

This bill carried an appropriation of $20,000, not to become available until the site was chosen. Governor John K. Tener signed the bill. As thus constituted by law, the Commission in the beginning was: Honorable John K. Tener, Governor; Honorable John G. Bell, Attorney General; Honorable Wm. C. Sproul, representing the Senate; Honorable James A. Dale, representing the House; Colonel N. P. Kinsley, Commander G. A. R. Department of Pennsylvania; John W. Frazier, General Chairman Philadelphia Brigade Association.

On the suggestion of former Governor Beaver, the United States Congress was asked to appropriate $10,000 for foundation and pedestal, but this was refused. The 1913 Legislature appropriated $10,000 for foundation and pedestal and $5,000 for expenses of the Commission and added the following members: The President of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway, Colonel George F. Baer; the Commander of the Central Pennsylvania Grand Army Association, Colonel John B. Patrick; and the Honorable John Wanamaker.

The organization of the Commission did not occur until October 18, 1913, when the following officers were

elected: Governor Tener, Chairman; Mr. Wanamaker, Vice Chairman; Colonel Patrick, Treasurer; and John W. Frazier, Secretary. Committee chairmen were appointed as follows: Committee on Site, Colonel Baer; Committee on Design, Mr. Wanamaker; Committee on History of Memorial, Mr. Frazier; Committee on Dedication, Mr. Bell; Committee on Invitations, the Governor.

Various meetings were held in Washington with the Commission of Fine Arts, at which different sites were discussed, as was also the selection of a sculptor, but nothing definite was accomplished until January 21, 1915, when the President signed a joint resolution of Congress providing for a Federal Commission on the Meade Memorial, composed of the Secretary of War, the Chairman of the Committee on Library of the Senate, the Chairman of the Committee on Library of the House of Representatives and the Governor of Pennsylvania.

It was provided in the joint resolution that this Commission should select a site at or near the intersection of 3rd Street, N. W., and Pennsylvania Avenue, and to erect thereon a Memorial to General Meade, the statue to be erected by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania without expense to the United States, the design and location and the treatment of the grounds to be approved by the Commission of Fine Arts.

With the retirement of Governor Tener and Attorney General Bell from office, their places on the Commission were taken by Martin G. Brumbaugh, Governor, and Francis Shunk Brown, Attorney General. February 5th, 1915, the Federal Commission adopted a resolution fixing the site of the Meade Memorial within the grounds of the Botanic Garden, near the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and 3rd Street, N. W. On May 5, 1915, Professor Warren P. Laird, Dean of the College of Fine Arts, University of Pennsylvania, was appointed Professional Adviser to study the problems involved and suggest the best method for selecting a design for the Memorial. June 18, 1915, the Legislature appropriated $50,000.

September 22, 1915, Professor Laird presented his report, which was adopted by the Commission. This report was subsequently adopted by the Commission of Fine Arts at a meeting in Washington. Upon the death of Colonel Baer, in October, 1915, Isaac R. Pennypacker, historian, was appointed a member of the Commission in his place.

The Commission on November 23, 1915, elected Charles Grafly, of Philadelphia, Sculptor, and the firm of Simon and Bassett, Architects. During the year 1916, a number of meetings were held by both the Federal and the State Commissions, at which they were unable to agree upon the design for the Memorial. On January 20, 1917, the Commission made a contract with Frank Miles Day, of the firm of Day and Klauder, Philadelphia Architects, to advise regarding the general design of the Memorial. On December 21, 1917, the Commission of Fine Arts gave preliminary approval to Mr. Grafly's three-quarter inch scale model. On November 23, 1918, the Fine Arts Commission gave final approval of the sketch model for the sculptural group. In the meantime, Mr. Frank Miles Day died in July, 1918. Mr. Wanamaker resigned from the Commission and Honorable Thomas S. Harrison, President of the United States Naval Association, was appointed in his place. In November, 1918, John W. Frazier, Secretary of the Commission from its organization, died, and Colonel Patrick was elected Secretary-Treasurer. Governor Sproul, succeeding Governor Brumbaugh, appointed Henry I. Yohn and Honorable Horace L. Haldeman to fill vacancies on the Commission.

In May, 1919, the death of Thomas S. Harrison was announced and in December, 1920, that of Honorable Horace L. Haldeman. Hugh R. Fulton and Honorable Edward W. Patton were appointed to the Commission. At the meeting of February 1, 1922, the death of Honorable James A. Dale was announced, and Mr. John E. Baker, of York, was appointed in his place. Mr. Pennypacker was elected Vice Chairman.

In the meantime Mr. Grafly was directed to proceed to the production of the final sculptural group as accepted by the Commission. The design for the pedestal for the group was approved by the Fine Arts Commission, October 20, 1920. The architectural service was continued under the firm of Simon and Simon. The contract for erection of the pedestal was awarded to Piccirilli Brothers in August, 1921, and ground was broken March 28, 1922, with appropriate exercises and addresses by Honorable John W. Weeks, Secretary of War; Honorable Wm. C. Sproul, Governor of Pennsylvania; Lieutenant General Nelson A. Miles. Ground was broken with a historic spade by the President of the United States, Governor Sproul, Senator Frank B. Brandegee on behalf of the Congress, George Gordon Meade, grandson, and George Gordon Meade, great-grandson of the General. The final working model for the sculptural group was finally approved by the Fine Arts Commission in January, 1922.

Piccirilli Brothers were employed to cut it in marble and began the work February 9, 1923.

Gifford Pinchot succeeded to the Gubernatorial office and automatically became a member of the Commission. Under the new Administrative Code, the Commission was placed under the administration of the Department of Property and Supplies and was newly constituted as follows: The Governor, a member of the Senate, a member of the House, the Commander of the Department of Penna. Grand Army of the Republic, three other citizens and the Secretary of Property and Supplies, ex officio. The new Commission consisted of the following: Governor Pinchot, Senator John G. Homsher, Representative Charles F. Bidelspacher, Colonel Samuel P. Town, Colonel John B. Patrick, Mr. John E. Baker, Mr. Hugh R. Fulton and Mr. Berkey H. Boyd. The Commission organized July 1, 1925, with Governor Pinchot, Chairman; Mr. Fulton, Vice Chairman, and Mr. Boyd, Secretary.

With the election of Honorable John S. Fisher as Governor of Pennsylvania, he became Chairman of the Commission; Mr. Fulton, Vice Chairman, and Honorable Benson E. Taylor, head of the Department of Property and Supplies, Secretary. The State Supervising Architect, Julian Millard, was brought into the work at this juncture as an official of Secretary Taylor's department, and the work of the Commission from this time was largely under his direction as Executive Officer.

At the close of its duties the membership of the Commission was as follows: Honorable John S. Fisher, Governor of Pennsylvania, Chairman; Honorable Hugh R. Fulton, Vice Chairman; Honorable Benson E. Taylor, Secretary; Honorable John G. Homsher, Honorable Charles F. Bidelspacher, Colonel John B. Patrick, Colonel Samuel P. Town, and Mr. John E. Baker.

The National Meade Memorial Commission was as follows: Honorable Dwight Filley Davis, Secretary of War; Honorable Simeon D. Fess, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Library; Honorable Robert Luce, Chairman of the Committee on Library of the House of Representatives; Honorable John S. Fisher, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Executive Officer of the National Commission was Lieutenant Colonel Ulysses S. Grant 3d, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A.

DR. LAIRD'S TRIBUTE TO THE SCULPTOR AND ARCHITECTS

IN presenting the sculptor and the architects at the dedication ceremonies, Dr. Warren P. Laird, Dean of The School of Fine Arts, University of Pennsylvania, who was called in during the early days of the Memorial's construction as an expert advisor on site and form of the Memorial, said:

"No stream rises higher than its source; no work of art can be greater than its author. No monument is revered by posterity unless it have inherent beauty, for man is intolerant of ugliness. Therefore, if we would set up an enduring memorial we must assure to it a quality that will make it precious in its own right; for whatever the glory of the hero or the exaltation of spirit in those who would do him honor, their tribute must in itself be fine if its message is to be carried through ages to come; ages which knew him not but accept our testimony in the light of our understanding of the nature and mission of art.

"The Meade Memorial Commission, charged with the solemn duty of perpetuating the memory of the defender of Pennsylvania and the Union, has dedicated itself to this task with high purpose. And in none of its many responsibilities has it shown better wisdom than in the selection of its artists, men of commanding ability, whom the State of Pennsylvania is proud to claim as her sons, and whom I have the honor to introduce: Charles Grafly, sculptor, and Edward Paul Simon and Grant Miles Simon, architects.

"Amply has their work justified the wisdom of the Commission, for this noble monument impresses us today with a rich significance and a splendid eloquence that do justice to the greatness of General Meade; while, as a work of art of surpassing merit, we may be assured that it will be cherished by posterity. Let us then rest content in the confidence that after our praises have stilled its message will be carried, clear and fine, to generations yet unborn, to the enduring honor of George Gordon Meade."